

Charity Number: SC024426

West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

Contents of the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 - 2
Report of the Independent Examiner	3
Statement of Financial Activities	4
Balance Sheet	5
Notes to the Financial Statements	6 – 10

West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Legal and Administrative Information

Charity name West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

Charity number SC024426

Registered office
The Gardeners Cottage
Scourie
Lairg
Sutherland
IV27 4SX

Trustees
D Allison
E Anderson
D Davies
S Harkins
S Jeffreys
A Johnson (Chair)
D Low
C Macleod
D O'Driscoll
R Osborne
L Richardson (from August 2024)

Independent examiner
T P Wright
Chartered Accountant
396 Elphin
By Lairg
Sutherland
IV27 4HH

Solicitors None

Bankers
The Royal Bank of Scotland plc
11 Argyle Street
Ullapool
IV26 2UD

West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2025

Structure, governance and management

West Sutherland Fisheries Trust is a Trust, originally established by the District Salmon Fishery Boards of the rivers Hope, Polla, Dionard, Grudie, Inchard, Laxford, Inver and Kirkaig, and is registered as a charity with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator.

The Trust was established under and is regulated by a Deed of Trust dated 12 February 1996, whereby the trustees (who must number between 5 and 12, inclusive) are responsible for electing the Board of Trustees which meets on a regular basis to consider strategic decisions, implementation of which is then delegated to employees. On 18 March 2020, the Board adopted a set of Regulations to supplement the Deed of Trust, pursuant to clause 10.12 thereof.

All donations and funding to the Trust are accepted only under the following terms and conditions:-

- 1) The donor/funder must support the aims and objectives of the Trust; and
- 2) Any funding, whatever the amount, will only be accepted on the basis that it will not change, bias or affect the aims and objectives of the Trust.

Aims, Objectives and Activities

The charity's main objects and activities are:

- 1) To conserve and enhance salmonids and river systems in the area by conducting research and survey projects and by providing advice where necessary.
- 2) To bring together fish farming and angling interests and to make contact with, and provide information to, all local communities.
- 3) To liaise with other fisheries trusts and also fisheries research organisations and other interested parties.

Achievements and Performance

The Trust continues to monitor the river systems within west Sutherland, looking at fish, invertebrates and non-native invasive species. It also undertakes work on the removal of invasive species within the area as well as the monitoring of sea lice populations on sea trout within a number of estuaries. The Biologists continue to liaise with interested parties and other Scientists to ensure best practice is followed within the area.

Financial review

Details of the financial results are set out in following pages.

Plans for future periods

The Trust plans to continue its current activities, working under the 2024-28 Fisheries Management Plan developed for the area. However, it will remain flexible in order to address issues that may arise and will affect the fish populations of west Sutherland. A review of wild fisheries was undertaken by the Scottish Government, aiming to modernise the way that fisheries are managed throughout Scotland, with the Trust actively involved in the process. While this review has now answered some of the issues, there is still some ambiguity as to the management form proposed. This process has had a profound effect on the Charity and its funding, with the Trustees being proactive in the development of future practice and fundraising.

This report was approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by



A Johnson
Trustee

Date: 5 December 2025

West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

Report of the Independent Examiners to the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2025

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 4 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a-c) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulationshave not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Name T P Wright

Qualification Chartered accountant

Address 396 Elphin, By Lairg, IV27 4HH

Date 5 December 2025

West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

Statement of financial activities

Year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies		17,938	-	17,938	22,793	-	25,299
Charitable activities		23,899	60,500	84,399	15,088	75,213	83,547
Other trading activities		5,431	-	5,431	5,344	-	5,430
Investment income		2,122	-	2,122	572	-	2,227
Total incoming resources	2	49,390	60,500	109,890	43,797	75,213	116,503
Resources expended:							
Charitable activities		78,603	45,500	124,103	15,888	75,213	116,763
Total resources expended	3	78,603	45,500	124,103	15,888	75,213	116,763
Net incoming/outgoing resources before transfers							
		(29,213)	15,000	(14,213)	27,909	-	(260)
Transfers		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds after transfers	9	(29,213)	15,000	(14,213)	27,909	-	(260)
Total funds brought forward	9	194,662	-	194,662	167,013	-	194,922
Total funds carried forward	9	165,449	15,000	180,449	194,922	-	194,662

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements.

West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	£	2025	£	2024
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	6		6,405		8,532
Current Assets					
Debtors	7	957		3,735	
Cash at bank and in hand		179,360		187,752	
		180,317		191,487	
Creditors: falling due within one year	8	6,273		5,357	
Net Current Assets			174,044		186,130
Total Net Assets			<u>180,449</u>		<u>194,662</u>
Represented by:					
Restricted income funds	9		15,000		-
Unrestricted income funds	9		165,449		194,662
Total Funds			<u>180,449</u>		<u>194,662</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf on 5 December 2025

D Allison
Trustee



West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015) - Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Donations, gifts in kind and volunteer time

Donations received are recorded at the time the charity becomes entitled to the resource. Gifts in kind income represent donated assets received by the charity and are recorded at the estimated current value the charity would expect to pay for the asset on the open market. The value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into the financial statements.

Grants

Grants received are included in incoming resources when they are receivable, except when conditions attached to such grants have not yet been fulfilled, when the income is deferred. Grants of a capital nature are treated as a restricted fund and released to the unrestricted funds over the life of the asset.

Expenditure

Expenditure is included on the accruals basis and recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay.

Deferred income

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which it has been received.

Fund accounting

Restricted funds: funds held which are restricted for use for specific purposes.

Unrestricted funds: funds which the trustees are free to use, in accordance with the charitable objects.

Designated funds: funds which the trustees set aside for a specific purpose.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	20-25% reducing balance
Motor vehicles	-	25% reducing balance

Taxation

The Association is a charity for tax purposes and relief given under S.505 Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

2 Incoming resources	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Donations and legacies</i>						
Donations	11,488	-	11,488	18,329	-	18,329
Gift aid	-	-	-	440	-	440
Rental value of properties made freely available	6,000	-	6,000	6,000	-	6,000
Membership subscriptions	450	-	450	530	-	530
	17,938	-	17,938	25,299	-	25,299
<i>Charitable activities</i>						
DSFB	-	30,000	30,000	-	15,000	15,000
Tracking project	-	-	-	-	-	-
Laxford project	-	10,000	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
Nature Scot	-	13,000	13,000	-	10,975	10,975
FMS generated	-	7,500	7,500	-	25,130	25,130
Survey project work	23,899	-	23,899	22,442	-	22,442
	23,899	60,500	84,399	22,442	61,105	83,547
<i>Other trading activities and income</i>						
Other income	431	-	431	430	-	430
Employment allowance	5,000	-	5,000	5,000	-	5,000
	5,431	-	5,431	5,430	-	5,430
<i>Investment income</i>						
Bank interest	2,122	-	2,122	2,227	-	2,227
Total income	49,390	60,500	109,890	55,398	61,105	116,503

West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

3 Resources expended	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	2025	Funds	Funds	2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	47,616	27,564	75,180	33,557	36,840	70,397
Employer's National Insurance	4,937	2,858	7,795	3,434	3,770	7,204
Pensions	1,978	1,145	3,123	1,434	1,575	3,009
Demonstration/Events/Promotion	560	324	884	612	671	1,283
Project works subcontracted	7,037	4,073	11,110	4,223	4,637	8,860
Rent	3,800	2,200	6,000	2,860	3,140	6,000
Rates and water	804	465	1,269	605	664	1,269
Light and heat	1,140	660	1,800	72	78	150
Protective clothing, equipment etc	434	251	685	239	263	502
Insurance	1,367	791	2,158	1,000	1,098	2,098
Motor expenses	3,466	2,007	5,473	2,032	2,231	4,263
Travel costs	220	128	348	568	623	1,191
Telephone	536	310	846	371	407	778
Office expenses	300	173	473	387	425	812
Subscriptions, FMS fees etc	1,124	651	1,775	1,582	1,737	3,319
Annual Review costs	-	-	-	195	214	409
Sundry expenses	448	259	707	37	42	79
Training/Recruitment	336	194	530	232	254	486
General depreciation	1,347	780	2,127	1,351	1,483	2,834
Book-keeper's services	646	374	1,020	486	534	1,020
Accountancy fees	507	293	800	381	419	800
Total expenditure	78,603	45,500	124,103	55,658	61,105	116,763

4 Staff costs and emoluments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	75,180	70,397
Employer's national insurance	7,795	7,204
Pension contributions	3,123	3,009
	86,098	80,610

Particulars of employees

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2025	2024
Staff	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 in the year (2024 - Nil).

West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

5 Trustees remuneration and expenses

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year (2024 - £nil). No expenses were claimed by trustees during the year (2024 - £nil).

6 Tangible fixed assets

		Computers, equipment etc	Motor vehicle	
		£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 April 2024		23,809	26,536	50,345
At 31 March 2025		23,809	26,536	50,345
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2024		23,672	18,141	41,813
Charge for year		28	2,099	2,127
At 31 March 2025		23,700	20,240	43,940
Net Book Value				
At 31 March 2025		109	6,296	6,405
At 31 March 2023		137	8,395	8,532

7 Debtors: falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	-	2,771
Other debtors and prepayments	957	964
	957	3,735

8 Creditors: falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	1,564	2,037
Other creditors and accruals	4,709	3,320
	6,273	5,357

West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

£'000

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

9 Reserves

	At 01/04/24 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31/03/25 £
<i>Restricted funds</i>					
DSFB	-	30,000	(15,000)	-	15,000
Laxford project	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Nature Scot	-	13,000	(13,000)	-	-
FMS generated	-	7,500	(7,500)	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	60,500	(45,500)	-	15,000
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>					
Accumulated unrestricted fund	194,662	49,390	(78,603)	-	165,449
Total reserves	194,662	109,890	(124,103)	-	180,449
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Fixed assets	6,405	-	6,405	8,532
Current assets	165,317	15,000	180,317	191,487
Creditors: falling due within one year	(6,273)	-	(6,273)	(5,357)
Total funds	165,449	15,000	180,449	194,662
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>